

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1870.  
[SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL.]  
FROM RALEIGH.  
HOLDEN IMPEACHED.  
CONVENTION TO BE CALLED.

RALEIGH, Dec. 15.  
Messrs. Welch, Sparrow and Stradwick, the Committee appointed by the House, appeared before the Senate to-day and impeached Governor Holden. The articles of impeachment will be read as soon as the Chief Justice can get here to organize the Senate as a Court.  
The Senate was busy this morning perfecting the Convention bill, and will meet again to-night for the same purpose. The bill will soon become a law.  
The 16th day of February is the day fixed upon for the election.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The impeachment of Governor Holden— Singular Conduct of his Friends—A Convention—The Great Revival—The Yarrowburgh House, &c., &c.

YARROWBURGH HOUSE, RALEIGH, Dec. 14th, 1870.

DEAR JOURNAL:—I have anticipated all the news of immediate interest now pending before the Legislature, by telegraph to-day, and on and on a little of interest. The report of the Judiciary Committee, embracing a resolution impeaching the Governor of high crimes and misdemeanors in office, has been the subject of a most exciting debate in the House to-day. It was called up by Mr. Stradwick, of Orange, at eleven o'clock. A negro member immediately moved to lay it on the table. This was voted down. Messrs. French, Justice, Phillips, Harris of Franklin, and every negro in the House poured out the vials of their partisan wrath upon the Conservatives, and defended the Governor to the best of their feeble abilities. Even Mr. Phillips seemed overpowered with the weakness of his cause and the palpable guilt of his friend, and did himself manifest injustice in the narrow partisan effort he was only able to make.

I was surprised that the friends of Governor Holden should have even wished to prevent his trial. If he be really innocent of a violation of the Constitution; if his conduct was law-abiding and patriotic; if he has indeed restored peace to North Carolina and given legal protection to many thousands of her citizens, they should have demanded an investigation into the charges against him. He should have himself demanded it. He has certainly cause to complain of the action of his friends to-day. It looked very much as if they believed him guilty, and that their party was responsible for his crimes. But a man with such friends is to be pitied—even Holden deserves better supporters.

To-morrow a Committee from the House will formally impeach Governor Holden at the bar of the Senate, and he will, of course, be suspended from office. As soon as Chief Justice Pearson arrives, the Senate will be organized as a High Court of Impeachment, and the Governor will be formally arraigned. A few weeks will be allowed him to prepare his defence, which will probably make it the middle of January before the trial begins.

A bill calling a restricted Convention was formally introduced into both Houses this morning. It will be immediately pushed in the Senate. I am satisfied this bill, or one similar in its provisions, will pass before the holidays. I am glad to see some of our Conservative papers changing front upon the subject, and now joining with the Journal in urging the early call of a Convention. I will write more at length upon this subject to-morrow.

The revival going on in the Baptist Church, under the auspices of Mr. Earle, is exciting great interest here. He is a most powerful and effective pulpit orator. Large numbers are connecting themselves with the church. Governor Holden, I learn, made a public profession of religion to-day. I am glad to know that Mr. Earle will visit Wilmington very soon.

There is a large number of visitors here. The Yarrowburgh House is full and deserves to be. There cannot be a more attentive or polite host than Dr. Blackwell; no hotel is better furnished or kept, and one is sure to meet his friends, for the Yarrowburgh is the headquarters of good cheer and good company.

In haste, E.

YARROWBURGH HOUSE, RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 14th, 1870.

I was not able, in my hasty note this morning, to speak in detail of the question of Convention now pending before the General Assembly. The bill concerning a Convention of the People, which will come up on its passage in the Senate to-morrow, recites in its preamble that the present Constitution of North Carolina is in many respects burdensome and oppressive to the people of the State; and some of its provisions are ill-adapted to the wants and conditions of the people; that the taxes required by it, to be levied upon citizens of the State by the General Assembly, are, in the judgment of the General Assembly, too burdensome to be borne by the tax-payers of the State, and cannot be collected without effecting the ruin of the best interests of all our people, that for these reasons and many others, the Constitution requires such amendments and alterations as to give to our people the relief demanded by them; from their present heavy burdens, which can only be immediately and judiciously effected by a Convention of the people. But in such matters of grave import, the General Assembly is reluctant to undertake any change in the fundamental law of the State, without the sense of the people, in whom, under our government, all sovereignty resides, is ascertained; the bill, therefore, provides for the question to be submitted to the people on Thursday, the 16th day of February next, at which time

also, delegates shall be elected to the Convention. The bill provides for a new registration of the voters in all the counties of the State; that the Convention shall consist of one hundred and twenty delegates, and each county shall be entitled to the same number of delegates, as members of the House of Representatives under the present apportionment; that the mileage and per diem of the delegates shall be the same as that of members of the present General Assembly.

The bill restricts the Convention as follows: The Convention shall have no power or authority whatever to offer or propose any amendment or alteration of, or in any way interfere with, repeal or modify the homestead and personal property exemptions as provided for in article ten of the Constitution of the State; nor shall it in any way interfere with, modify, repeal, or do any other act to restrict or impair the rights, privileges, or immunities of any person in the State on account of his race, color, or previous condition, which is now guaranteed to him by virtue of the 15th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, nor shall it propose any amendment to the Constitution of the State in any way impairing or restricting said rights, privileges or immunities; nor shall said Convention pass any ordinance or propose any amendment to the Constitution of this State, which shall in any way provide for payment by the State to the late slaveholders of the State, or any other person, for the loss sustained by them by reason of the emancipation of said slaves; nor shall it pass any ordinance or offer any amendment which shall in any way provide for the infliction of whipping, branding or cropping for criminal offences; nor shall it have power to abolish the present system of public instruction, but to make such necessary alterations to the system as may seem necessary and proper; nor shall it be allowed to pass any ordinance or ordinance legislative in their character, except such as are necessary to submit the Constitution as amended to the people of the State for their ratification or rejection; nor shall it have power to modify or repeal that clause in the present Constitution which provides for a mechanics and laborers lien law.

I have been thus particular in giving the leading features of this bill that our readers may better understand the debates and legislation attending the question, and because I am assured that this bill will pass without important amendments. There is much business crowding the calendars of both Houses, mostly, however, of a local character, but of considerable importance. Many of them will become laws before the recess, now fast approaching, but the two great questions of a Convention and Impeachment will not be neglected. There will be no recess until the Convention bill becomes a law, and until Governor Holden is properly arraigned before the Senate, so that the recess will be included in the time demanded for preparations by the managers of the House and by the Governor. If the Legislature is distinguished by any special characteristic more than another it is for the deliberation and yet the promptness with which it dispatches business. No measure is forced through without the opportunity for proper discussion, but neither personal nor hasty zeal is permitted to delay its action. The discretion, deliberation and firmness with which the two great questions now pending have been treated establishes the character of the body in the good estimation of the people.

The members of the House are mostly young men, full of vim, industry and firmness. They are wedded to no effect opinions and obsolete prejudices. Some fault-finders have objected that there is no leader in the House. We are not so sure but that this is a decided advantage. There are a number of members of decided talents, of great industry, of decision, of pluck, who will leave their impress upon the legislative history of the State. I am well pleased with both branches of the General Assembly, and predict that their deliberations will do much for the future grandeur of the State. I cannot close without paying a well-merited tribute to the New Hanover members, Major McClammy and Captain Ashe. They are always in their seats, and are hard working members of Committees. Both have taken prominent stands in their respective Houses, and we can promise our readers that the interests of their constituents and of the whole State will not suffer at their hands. Such representatives deserve the esteem in which they are so justly held.

The Best President. The Urbana (Ohio) Union holds a ticket consisting of B. Gratz Brown for President, and John Quincy Adams for Vice-President in 1872. Not to be behind hand the Union also furnishes a platform for the candidates, as follows: I. The jurisdiction of the National Government supreme and exclusive in national affairs. The jurisdiction of the State governments supreme and exclusive in local and personal affairs. II. Revenue reform. III. Reform in civil service. IV. Restoration of lawful money. V. Universal amnesty and universal suffrage.

The most promising thing in the matter of "civil reform" is the movement for the repeal of the Internal Revenue system. It is unfair in spirit, unequal in its bearings, and is executed with partiality in many cases. The small fish are caught in the fine meshes of its net, but large ones break through it, or get over, or around it, (it is a harness repugnant to freedom, as is their backs, and ought to be abolished. It costs nearly one-half to collect the balance. Down with it!

Florida. The Tallahassee Floridian of the 7th inst., gives the official returns from all the counties in Florida except Dade and Monroe, small Radical majorities for each of which are included in the estimate, and

the result is 212 majority for the Democratic candidate for Congressman and 52 majority for the Democratic candidate for Lieutenant Governor. "Great Moral Ideas." Reconstruction, which has fostered the party of "great moral ideas," has given birth to some remarkable statesmen in both State and National councils. One by one these callow officials are dropping off, upon the discovery of their various crimes.

In North Carolina murderers, forgers, penitentiary convicts and thieves have been promoted to high positions, and are gradually being detected and lopped off. The National House of Representatives seems to have become a House of Refuge for criminals. First, Congressman Butler, of Tennessee, was detected stealing from widows and orphans, to say nothing of his public pilferings. Then Winney, of Georgia, was discovered to be the partner of a party of counterfeit swindlers in New York. Whitmore, of South Carolina, and Dewees, of North Carolina, were caught speculating in cadetships and driven from Congress. Next comes Brown, of South Carolina, who contributes two wives to Congressional iniquity, unless saved from the predicament by virtue of an improvised Indiana divorce. Last of all, the incorrigible Butler, of Tennessee, is arrested for forgery by the Grand Jury of the District of Columbia. So the party of "great moral ideas" has contributed to Congressional morals a swindler, a counterfeiter, two cadet speculators, a bigamist, and a forger, so far as has yet been discovered. Who will be the next criminal and what the next crime will soon be known.

P. S.—The telegraph informs us that Butler, of Tennessee, was arrested yesterday for perjury. Who next and what next?

Texas Internal and External. After the war, the South, in an exhausted condition, needed fostering care. Wisdom plainly dictated that the Federal Government should extend a generous hand; exert its power to prevent, and to remove disturbing causes; and so tenderly watch the patient as to secure a speedy restoration to health. The welfare of the whole, results from the welfare of each component part. This, though generally true of all countries, is especially true as regards the relation of the South to the United States, because the prosperity of the latter is essentially, we had almost said absolutely, dependent upon the products of the former. The enormous sacrifices, the gigantic efforts of the North to prevent the divorce recently sought by the South, attest its recognition of this truth.

The action of the North in casting burdens upon the South, has been the fruit of blind passion, unreasoning aversion. Power has been disturbed by the last census, and recent elections demonstrate that it will soon shift from the manufacturing to the Western States. The representatives of these latter States, from the necessity of their condition, must soon become a unit for free trade. To enable them to anticipate, anxieties will be welcomed from the South. Here we have an argument and a promise that a general amnesty will not be long withheld.

It is said that the leaders of the protectionists in Congress, to support their tottering fortunes, are bidding for Southern aid. We hope no Southern man will discount his future. We do not believe any Southern man has been tampered with—rumor to the contrary notwithstanding. "He is worse than a heathen who does not provide for his own family," therefore, it is with us not only wisdom and policy, but in accordance with feeling deep and almost universal, to advocate the repeal of all internal taxes and the reduction of the tariff to a simple revenue standard. We like not the domiciliary visit of the tax-gatherer; our answer to him is traditional and instructive. We desire a frugal, non-protesting, republican government; we covet not a splendid government, with an army like that of Prussia, or navy like that of Great Britain, for well we know that glory, pomp and circumstances, palaces and colossal fortunes are inconsistent with the welfare of the masses; and we believe when property is most equally distributed and government least felt—then is man in his happiest condition.

AN OUTLAW KILLED.—From Capt. R. S. Love, W. C. & R. R. R., we learn that one Zach McLaughlin, a white desperado, and an escaped prisoner from the jail at Luberton, over whose head there hung a lambent star from the State and the county, was killed near Argyle, in Robeson county, on last Friday morning, just before day. The circumstances were as follows: Mr. Henry Biggs, who resides near Argyle, states that McLaughlin came to his house on Thursday night, heavily armed and forced him to join him (McL.) and a portion of the gang in a projected robbery on the store of Mr. J. M. McKinnon, at Argyle. On the way to the rendezvous of the outlaws, McLaughlin stopped and laid down by it, as he was sleepy. To this Mr. Biggs agreed, McLaughlin soon falling asleep. As soon as he was fully assured of this fact, Mr. Biggs arose and, snatching the others pistol from his belt, shot him dead with it. He then went into Argyle and gave himself up to the proper authorities, with the foregoing as his statement of the affair. A jury was empaneled and an inquest was to have been held yesterday.

The Columbus County Prisoners. SHERIFF'S OFFICE COLUMBUS CO., WHITEVILLE, N. C., Dec. 15th, 1870. MESSRS. EMMERICH & PRICE, Editors Journal.

Enclosed you will find dispatch from James McDonald, Secretary of the Commonwealth of Virginia, giving description of Lewis and McGiffin. You doubtless remember that two men were captured at Fair Bluff a few days since. One of this party, who gave his name as Lewis, answers precisely the description given in the dispatch of McGiffin. The other is a lad about seventeen or eighteen years old, who says his name is Parish, from Brunswick county, Virginia.

The party had with them, when captured, a bay baby apparently two years old, and also a black pony, with grey tail and white top in forehead. This party have been in Horry county, South Carolina, in company with this Dr. Lewis, who has gone by the name of Dr. Boggs. Said Lewis, alias Boggs, has been teaching a school in Horry county, S. C., and since the arrest of these parties in my jail, has disappeared from those parts, but there are parties in search of him. I simply write this with a hope that it may lead to his capture.

Very respectfully, Y. V. RICHARDSON, Sheriff.

RICHMOND, VA., Dec. 12th, 1870.

To F. V. Richardson, Whiteville, N. C.:

Dr. W. W. Lewis, who is charged with the murder of Drummond, is five feet seven or eight inches in height, about thirty years of age; has black hair, eyes light blue, nose straight, thin, fair, hair curly, or quite black, and generally worn over with the lower extremity of the hair very red and abundant; features rather sharp and bony; nose thin, face pitted from small-pox, and left hand scarred from a gunshot wound.

McGiffin, also charged, represented to be a half brother of Lewis, is five feet nine or ten inches in height, and slender; face somewhat flat with cheekbones slightly prominent; eyes blue and very fierce, and hair dark; speaks quietly, with Irish accent.

JAMES MCKINNON, Secretary of Columbus County of Virginia.

From the Raleigh Sentinel.

Legislature of North Carolina—Deferred Proceedings.

SENATE, THURSDAY, Dec. 15, 1870.

SPECIAL ORDER.

Bill regulating the salaries and fees of State officers. [This bill provides that the Governor shall have \$5,000 per annum until the 1st of January, 1871, and thereafter until a Private Secretary at a salary of \$500 per year, who may receive the fees of said office as prescribed in section 12, chapter 102, and no other. He shall be allowed one messenger at a salary of \$900 per year.]

His annual salary shall be \$3,000 until January 1st, 1871. He shall be allowed a chief clerk with a salary of \$1,500 per year. He shall also be allowed an assistant clerk with an annual salary of \$750.

Secretary of State.—His annual salary shall be \$1,000 and fees of his office as prescribed in section 13, chapter 102 of the Revised Code and no other. He shall be allowed one clerk with a salary of \$850 per year.

His annual salary shall be \$1,250 and also the fees of his office, as prescribed by law.

Superintendent of Public Works.—His annual salary shall be \$50. He shall not be allowed any sum for traveling expenses, or clerical assistance.

His annual salary shall be \$50, and shall not be allowed any sum for traveling expenses, nor shall he be allowed to appoint any assistant, neither shall any other person make any such appointment.

Attorney General.—His annual salary shall be \$1,000 and the fees prescribed by law, except those given by section 5, chapter 102 of the Revised Code.

Adjutant General.—His salary shall be \$300 per year. He shall not be allowed any traveling or other expenses, or clerical assistance at the expense of the State.

Reporter of the Decisions of the Supreme Court.—His salary shall be the same, and have the same rights as are given by section 6, chapter 102, of the Revised Code. He shall receive no other or further remuneration.

[The bill goes further and provides for salaries and fees of county officers, but we have no space to publish it to-day. We shall publish it when next we meet.]

Mr. Olds moved to amend section 6, (which regulates the salary of the Superintendent of Public Instruction,) by striking out \$50 and insert \$2,000.

Mr. Troy moved to amend the amendment by inserting \$1,000 instead of \$2,000.

This question was discussed at length, finally the previous question was called and sustained.

The President decided that the question was divisible, the motion to strike out prevailed by a vote of 24 to 20.

Mr. Troy's amendment to the amendment was adopted by a vote of 24 to 20, and \$1,500 was inserted in the section by a vote of 24 to 21.

Mr. Olds moved to amend the same section by allowing the said Superintendent an additional sum for traveling expenses and clerical services.

The President ruled the amendment out of order.

Mr. Love moved a reconsideration of the vote by which the sum of \$1,500 was fixed in the 6th section, and motion was made that motion until to-morrow at 12 o'clock.

Mr. Graham moved to postpone the further consideration of the whole bill until to-morrow at 12 o'clock, which prevailed.

Narrow Gauge Railroads.

The little Festing narrow gauge railroad promises to be the forerunner of a multitude of others. Already the popular mind is becoming deeply interested in the subject, and in various quarters of the State, in Tennessee, in Texas, in California, Kentucky and West Virginia, the question is not only being agitated, but in some instances has already assumed a practical shape. It was not long since that reports reached us that arrangements were being made by the State of Tennessee for the construction of a narrow gauge road, and now we learn from the Railroad and Mining Register, of New York, that a company is in process of organization for the express purpose of building such road by contract with the State of Tennessee.

The company, known as the Festing and Mining Railroad, of Kentucky, is at the head of this new association, and the first road constructed on the narrow gauge principle in this country, will be built this winter to connect the Hanging Rock region of the Ohio river with the Eastern Kentucky Road.

The remarkable success of the Festing road is one of the most noteworthy events in the history of modern engineering. It is still more surprising that the application of the principle of the broad gauge roads to the narrow gauge road, a lighter road and with less costly appliances, should not have been adopted at an earlier day. The profits of a narrow gauge road, as compared with that of a main trunk line, are extraordinary. Owing to the difference of cost in construction and equipment, the State of Tennessee has been able to build the light cost of operating it, the Festing road pays large annual dividends to its stockholders. The net revenue for the year 1869 was \$53,000 on a capital of \$30,000. Mr. D'Aigley, a New York engineer, in commenting on the success of the Festing Road, says: "The economy of the construction and equipment of a narrow gauge road, 2 feet 6 inches, is immense when compared with the cost of a road 4 feet 8 inches. For a single track it is 50 per cent. over an ordinary main country, but in the mountainous or mining districts the proportion increases to 75 per cent. and more. In fact, a narrow gauge road can be established, and will prove a paying concern in countries so rough that no attempt would ever be made to construct a road of the main gauge. Narrow gauge roads will accomplish a revolution

in the railroad system of the United States. Besides the lighter cost of construction, and the economies with which such a road can be worked, the saving on dead weight alone is very great. Thus, the engine and tender of the Festing Road, which weighs only twenty tons against forty tons on the broad gauge road. Its carriages, holding twelve persons each, weigh only thirty hundred weight, while the broad gauge English cars, which are constructed to carry thirty-two passengers, weigh even and a half tons. Thus the proportion of dead weight is but two hundred and fifty pounds for each passenger carried on the Festing Road, whilst on the broad gauge roads it is nearly five hundred pounds for each passenger. Now, here is a simple road adapted to the wants of country neighborhoods and easily within the means of the inhabitants. It costs less to construct than a turnpike, and not more than an ordinary plank road. It will last, when properly constructed, for many years, without requiring any important repairs of any renewal of the rails, for the wear and tear of such a road is very small—owing to the comparative lightness of the engine and cars, and the easy and uniform rate at which such a road may be run. A tributary road, these narrow gauge railways, answer every possible purpose. They are cheaply made, cost but little to work them, bring interior rural districts into closer connection with main trunk lines, and, as their economy and efficiency have been thoroughly demonstrated, they are, in the opinion of the writer, certainly deserving to be extensively adopted.—Baltimore Gazette.

From the Raleigh Standard.

Wilmington, Charlotte and Northern Railroad—Opinion of Attorney-General as to the State's Interest in the same.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, December 8th, 1870.

To the Honorable the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina.

GENTLEMEN:—A joint resolution, passed by your Honorable bodies, was sent to this office some two days since. It is expressed in the following language: "That the Attorney General be requested to render as soon as possible to the General Assembly an opinion upon the rights and interest of the State in the Wilmington, Charlotte and Northern Railroad, under existing laws."

This resolution is of a very comprehensive character, and has made it necessary to examine a number of statutes relative to this road and running through a series of fifteen or sixteen years. It has likewise taken a full and complete view of the various important acts, arising out of a construction of the acts of the last Legislature known as the Repealing Acts. With every disposition to comply with the request of the General Assembly, immediately, I could not give an opinion without a full and complete examination and some deliberation. I can now scarcely hope to throw much light upon matters obscured by much conflicting legislation.

This corporation was created by an act of the Legislature, entitled, "An Act to take a loan of stock to the Wilmington, Charlotte and Northern Railroad, and to amend an act passed 14th Feb., 1855, the company was organized."

By section 9, of the act it is provided, "That the affairs of the company shall be managed and directed by a general board of directors, to be elected by the stockholders at their first annual meeting and at subsequent annual meetings."

By an act amendatory, it is provided, "That the stockholders in general meeting shall, from time to time, elect or re-elect, and discharge the number of directors, and that the same shall never exceed by any, nor be less than seven."

The State originally owned no stock in this company, but the Treasurer was authorized by the act of incorporation to take the stock of the company to a limited amount.

By acts of the Legislature passed in the years 1858 and 1860, the State agreed to exchange bonds or loan the company a certain amount, specified in the act, to take a loan of stock to the property of the road as security; under these acts of Assembly, the State loaned or exchanged bonds to the amount of two millions of dollars, according to my information.

Next in order was an act of 1860, entitled, "An Act to enable the Wilmington, Charlotte and Northern Railroad to complete its road, pay its debt to the State," &c. By that act the Company was authorized to issue its bonds to the amount of four millions of dollars and execute a mortgage on its property to secure the same.

The previous lien of the State to be postponed and made a second mortgage. By an ordinance of the Convention passed February 5th, 1868, upon a resolution of the Company of one million five hundred thousand dollars, it was agreed to endorse one million of the remainder, five hundred thousand to be deposited in the Treasury as collateral security. Thus far, the State owned no stock in this road, but had a mortgage, a second mortgage on all the property of the road, and was entitled to the first mortgage bonds to the amount of one million of dollars.

On the 29th day of January, 1869, the act was passed making the State a stockholder. The first section provides: "That the capital stock of the Wilmington, Charlotte and Northern Railroad, of which the State was to subscribe four millions."

21 section, subscription to be paid in coupon bonds of the State for one thousand dollars each, to be delivered to the President of the Company.

Section four limits the number of Directors to thirteen, of which number the Governor shall appoint seven and the stockholders six.

It is further provided, upon payment of one million of dollars of bonds, there shall be a meeting of stockholders, at which stockholders elected and appointed as therein provided, and a reorganization immediately effected. That of the bonds seven hundred and twenty thousand shall be retained by the Treasurer as collateral security.

By an act supplemental April 5th, 1869, it is provided that the six directors to be elected by the stockholders, shall be chosen by stockholders other than the State, and that immediately upon the reorganization the Treasurer shall deliver the retained bonds of the State except seven hundred and twenty thousand dollars directed to be retained, and thereupon a certificate shall be issued to the State for eighty thousand shares. These acts were accepted by the stockholders. One million dollars of bonds were delivered to the President of the Company and the company was reorganized. Of these bonds one million was sold by the Governor, and of the remaining two millions which came into the hands of Wm. Sloan, seventeen hundred thousand dollars were hypothecated and three hundred thousand dollars were retained by him, and so far as appears, are now in his hands. The amount of money received by these gentlemen, and how the proceeds have been expended is stated in their reports. The Treasury Department, as stated by the Treasurer, paid in January, 1870, interest on these bonds to the amount of twenty-nine thousand four hundred dollars.

On the 5th day of February, A. D. 1870,

an act was passed by the Legislature entitled, "An Act to restore the credit of the State, &c." The first section requires the several Presidents and other officers of railroads, who have secured bonds or other securities of the State for the construction of railroads in which the State is interested, to give a full statement concerning the same.

The third section makes it the duty of such President, or other officer, to return these bonds and to account for the proceeds of sales, &c.

The ninth section makes it an indictable felony to refuse, wilfully, a compliance with the provisions of this act. The sixteenth section makes the introduction of the bill, notice to all parties, of the purpose of the State, and thereafter, forbids any sale, transfer or disposal of her bonds, in the hands of any one, except bona fide purchasers.

On the 8th day of March, 1870, an act was passed in these words: "That all the bonds of the last session of the Legislature, making appropriations to Railroad Companies, be and the same are hereby repealed."

"That all bonds of the State which have been issued under said acts, now in the hands of any President or other officer, be immediately returned to the Treasurer."

The second section provides that all money in the Treasury, levied and collected under the provisions of said acts, are appropriated to the use of the State government. This section is perhaps modifying the act of the 12th of March, 1870, directing the Treasurer to use \$250,000 of the Special Tax money, and authorizing him to replace it out of the first money collected, &c. By another Act passed the same day, the Treasurer was directed to deposit the bonds of the State, and the bonds of the Company upon their compliance with certain conditions. The Company was authorized to mortgage again for a loan of two millions five hundred thousand dollars and the State's mortgage to be postponed to the mortgage of the Company.

This statement contains a compendium, as far as I can ascertain, of all the Acts of a Legislature relative to this Railroad.

From a general view of the subject, I think it must be manifest, that the object and purpose of the Legislature in these several Acts passed in 1870, was to relieve the State of heavy liabilities incurred, and to sever her connection with certain Railroads, and to enable her to spend the money, which she had appropriated to Railroads, &c., are hereby repealed. Not simply the appropriations, but the Acts making the appropriations. This includes the act of January 23rd, 1859, as I think, for it was one of the Acts passed at the session of 1858-'59. Under the Act of 1859, the State had a right to representation in the board of directors of this Railroad, and the Governor was authorized to appoint the Directors. The power of the Governor to appoint Directors must cease, I think, with the repeal of the Act by which it was conferred.

It may not be improper to say that the Executive Department has recognized the repeal of this act, and has accepted the appointment of Directors in the Western Railroad. The repealing act restored his power in that instance, and, as I think, takes it away in this. The cases are analogous.

It is objected that the act is unconstitutional. But the Legislature might repeal the act of 1859, provided it did not interfere with vested rights nor impair the obligation of contracts. What effect this repealing act may have upon the rights of the stockholders, I do not present. As far as this Company is concerned, they have fully assented to the act, and cannot therefore complain. And it seems clear that the State may relinquish her right of representation in the Board of Directors, constituting a charter, and adopt a new constitution most favorable to the State. Yet they cannot disregard the plain letter of the law, although they may consider a statute unjust or impolitic.

I cannot suppose that it is necessary to expound at length the opinion upon the precise interest which the State may have in this Railroad. She has an interest as second mortgagee—she has outstanding bonds subscribed to this road, to the amount of three millions of dollars. She has paid a considerable sum of money to the State in order to promote the election of the latter candidate, wrote "a private letter" denouncing the first candidate in the bitterest terms, and declaring that his election would be a disgrace to the State. Unfortunately, his "private letter" fell into the hands of the first candidate.

Gen. Houston, always holding the same duplicity that has been exploded in the Admiral, and being very careful of his popularity, went on a visit of a week to his first friend, whom he had denounced, and cherished with all every good wish and friendship, all the time he remained under his roof. At length the time for departure came, and they went together to the stage road, where a final farewell was to take place. Whilst waiting for the stage the gentleman produced "a private letter" in which Houston had abused him so immeasurably, and presented it for his perusal. Gen. Houston placed his glasses on his nose and read it without moving a muscle, and turning to his injured, deceived and abused friend, he exclaimed: "Is it possible I could have been so deceived as to have written such a letter?"

A precedent for Porter. A writer in the Savannah News consoles and advises Admiral Porter. Thus: "It seems that when Gen. Houston was the President of Texas, he, like Gen. Grant, of this State, took upon him the elections. One of his friends had conferred with him, and they had agreed that he should represent a county in the Legislature. Afterwards another and more influential friend of Houston became a candidate for the same county. The General, in order to promote the election of the latter candidate, wrote "a private letter" denouncing the first candidate in the bitterest terms, and declaring that his election would be a disgrace to the State. Unfortunately, his "private letter" fell into the hands of the first candidate.

Gen. Houston, always holding the same duplicity that has been exploded in the Admiral, and being very careful of his popularity, went on a visit of a week to his first friend, whom he had denounced, and cherished with all every good wish and friendship, all the time he remained under his roof. At length the time for departure came, and they went together to the stage road, where a final farewell was to take place. Whilst waiting for the stage the gentleman produced "a private letter" in which Houston had abused him so immeasurably, and presented it for his perusal. Gen. Houston placed his glasses on his nose and read it without moving a muscle, and turning to his injured, deceived and abused friend, he exclaimed: "Is it possible I could have been so deceived as to have written such a letter?"

These fashionable abominations in city architecture will prove a most costly luxury. In rural homes they are often introduced with a false taste for the landscape is concerned, although the room they cover are inessentially hot in winter, and correspondingly cold in comfort. But apart from convenience, comfort, or architectural effect, they are a great waste of money, and a great injury to the country. They will begin to grow by the time when the danger is once appreciated. They are nothing less than a great wooden story topping out a brick or stone building, constructed for a bonfire on scenic title principles, and placed in position where the danger is greatest. The result is less effective. The great increase in the number now under contract and the evident peril to city property from this dangerous nuisance leads us to this plainness of speech concerning them. They are very large and elegant buildings have recently been finished towards the heavens in this way, and others are in progress. Will nobody learn better until taught by a most disastrous conflagration?

N. Y. Jour. of Com.

Shoemakers' Measure. An inquiry has recently been conducted in the industrial journals as to the correct measure for shoe-making. The measure, from which it appears that number one, children's measure, is 4 1/2 inches, and that every additional number calls for an increase of one-third of an inch in length.

Number one adults' measure is 8 1/2 inches long, with a gradual increase of one-third long, for example, number ten measures 11 1/2 inches. This measure corresponds to the number of the last and not to the length of the sole.

Blanket Brothers' candy factory, in St. Louis, has been burned Sunday. Loss, \$90,000; half insured.

Butler's Book on Grant. Just now General Butler is growing up easy lest he be brought into similar relations to the President as those sustained by Admiral Porter. Within a few days the real character of Butler's book on General Grant, prepared soon after the close of the war with a view of defeating the latter for the Presidency, has been coming out through parties now in the city, who at the time had access to the sheets. The work reached the stage, where criticisms were prepared for several journals, and the whole thing was ready to appear when Butler, for some reason, changed his purpose, and, instead of getting the reviews already written back into his hands again, and from that time to this the book has disappeared from sight. There is now said to be danger that one of these reviews, prepared under Butler's own eye and directions, has passed beyond his control, and is likely to be public property before long. There is no doubt but that the book, as a whole, is a masterpiece of attack upon Grant, gotten up in Butler's most malignant style.—Washington Telegram, Pittsburgh Commercial.

A Bold and Ingenious Thief. A sharp trick was performed this morning which for singularity and address is quite equal to anything that has occurred in a long time. A carriage containing a lady stopped in front of No. 13 Broad street, and she alighted. The colored, holding a check on a check, on Schenck & Co., amounting to \$525, payable to bearer, and drawn by a well-known firm. The check was presented and paid. The lady returned to her carriage, and just as she was about driving off she was stopped by an elderly looking gentleman with a pair of spectacles, bare and bald headed, who seemed to come from the banking house, and begged to examine the bill, as there was some mistake. She, supposing everything was all correct, allowed the same to be examined. The gentleman waited for some time for the return of the grave and bald-headed old gentleman, when she alighted from her coach, and on going into the office found that she had been out-witted by a thief.

New York Commercial.

The Trouble with Canada. TORONTO, Dec. 10. The following special from the seat of government